

# **January Borough Manager's Report:**

## **Code Enforcement:**

As per Council's action at the 1/18 meeting, the part-time code enforcement position has been advertised. As members are aware, qualified candidates have applied for this position.

As always, I would like to encourage residents to contact the Borough at (610)522-1305 or email me personally at [manager@folcroftborough.org](mailto:manager@folcroftborough.org) if they would like to discuss or dispute a fine or if they can commit to help correct a situation. Residents who would like to report a violation or for general questions can do so anonymously at the same number and email.

## **Highway:**

As per resident requests, new signage was installed along the 100 block of Primos Avenue bordering Glenolden Borough. Glenolden Borough has also been made aware and is currently replacing the signage on their side as well.

Highway staff cleaned up trash along the 1000 and 1100 blocks of Taylor Drive and will continue to monitor the area. I made Rochelle Culbreath at SEPTA aware of the concerns. Ms. Culbreath said that SEPTA cannot place trash cans along this stretch of Taylor Drive, however she did agree to send SEPTA cleaning crews out to continue to keep the area clean.

As per council discussion on 2/1 regarding occasional winter street sweeping, I spoke with Shawn Payne and he believes that it would not be advisable to use our street sweeper during winter months as it has water lines that could freeze if left outside long. Even if we have warmer weather and were more flexible with timing, sucking up the road salt could apparently damage the vehicle. Shawn suggests – and I agree – that the Borough could engage with a private company for this service once per month from December through March for approximately 10 hours per day to do street sweeping. This could potentially be paid for by Liquid Fuels funds. I've provided a tentative proposal for this service with Council agenda packets for your consideration.

## **COVID 19:**

According to the most recent date from the State Department of Health, Pennsylvania is currently experiencing an average positivity rate has decreased significantly from 34% as of 1/12/22 to 15% as of 2/9/22. In Delaware County, the number is hovering around 15% which represents an almost 80% decrease in the positivity rate. According to the Montgomery County Health Department, anything below a 5% positivity rate represents suppression of the virus. Right now, there are 43 new cases per 100,000 Delaware County residents per day which is an

decrease from the astounding 256 per every 100,000 we saw just one month ago. Right now, 76% of Delaware County residents have received at least 1 dose of a COVID 19 vaccine which is below the state average of 82.5%. Notably, while deaths are up above summer levels the percentage increase is not nearly as huge as with positivity and overall case volume. This appears to be in line with the evidence that the Omicron variant of COVID 19 is both more contagious but also less severe.

## **OTHER:**

A total of about 1012 annual parking permits have been issued to residents in the permit parking areas. Dozens of permit parking violation payments have been collected since enforcement began in October. As a reminder, the overwhelming majority of permit violations are either erroneous or otherwise exchanged for annual permits. If you have not already received them, overnight guest parking magnets were received several weeks ago.

Councilmember Daly and I met virtually with representatives from the DEP to discuss what residents may be eating fish or turtles out of the Heinz Wildlife Refuge/Montgomery Park. According to the DEP, turtle traps used to catch snapping turtles are still commonly found in the park. It was made clear that the levels of toxins in the water and soil around the park make eating most fish unsafe, however it is still unclear which species are the most toxic to consume. If any councilmembers are aware of residents who eat fish or turtles out of the refuge please let me know.

I attended a PSAB issued training related to Borough Planning Commissions several weeks ago. In the near future, I'd like for councilmembers to discuss revamping and expanding the role of the commission to help with the already discussed comprehensive plan that has been mentioned in previous meetings. Lastly, I also participated in a PSAB sponsored (free) training related to the Open Records Act and Sunshine Laws. I would like to thank Council for allowing me to participate in this trainings and I will continue to seek your authorization for more trainings issued by PSAB in the future.